


Remarks:

In the Advisory Action dated May 9, 2007, the Examiner rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Seifert, or Seifert and Williams (Williams is incorporated by reference in Seifert). In response, Applicants have amended independent claims 29, 35 and 41 to more clearly distinguish over the cited art. Specifically, the independent claims have been amended to recite that the tether is longitudinally movable in the lumen of the lead such that the lead may be advanced over the tether. These features are neither disclosed nor fairly taught by Seifert or Williams. In fact, Seifert and Williams teach away from such features. For example, at paragraphs 0019 and 0021, Seifert describes the lead being pulled by the anchor, ostensibly by the tether, which wouldn't necessarily be possible if the tether were longitudinally movable in the lead. Further, at column 4 lines 53 – 58 and column 5 lines 17 – 20, Williams (which is cited by Seifert for purposes of describing a lead construction with a mechanical coupling to a fiber cord at paragraph 0018) describes both proximal and distal mechanical interconnections between the fiber core and the lead components, thus preventing longitudinal movement of the tether in lead. As such, Applicants submit the present claims are patentable over Seifert and Williams.

Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested. Any inquiry regarding this matter may be directed to the undersigned representative at (612) 226-3874.

Respectfully submitted,
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By their attorney,

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